

In the Drawings

Please delete sheet 1 and insert corrected sheet 1 attached hereto which is labeled "Replacement Sheet".

REMARKS

The undersigned appreciates the courtesy extended by the Examiner for the telephonic interview which was conducted on April 13. During the interview, claims 1 and 2, as previously pending, were discussed in relation to U.S. Patent No. 5,962,880 to Oda et al. ("Oda"). The undersigned argued a distinction of the previously pending claim 2 over Oda to which the Examiner agreed, that no structure is shown or described in Oda that corresponds to a link-up region disposed in a "second opening . . . oriented in a vertical direction substantially perpendicular to said intrinsic base layer" and in an "undercut region extend[ing] horizontally outward from said second opening in a first direction towards said emitter." Thus, claim 2, as previously pending, contained allowable subject matter.

Claim 1 has now been amended to contain all of the recitations of previously pending claim 2. Claim 2 has been canceled, as well as all of the claims 11-23 which were not elected after the preceding restriction requirement. Accordingly, Applicants submit that claim 1 is now in immediate condition to be allowed. In addition, claims 3, 7, 8, 9 and 10 which depend from claim 1, are allowable at least on that basis. In addition, it is respectfully submitted that claims 4-6, indicated as being allowable by the Office Action dated December 21, 2004, are now in condition for allowance by the present amendment which rewrites claim 4 in independent form.

In addition, one sheet of the drawings containing FIGS. 1 and 2 has been amended to include legends "prior art" on these figures, as required by the Examiner. These corrected figures are submitted as a replacement sheet herein.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants submit that

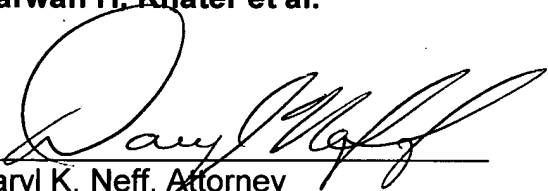
the application is now in condition for immediate allowance. If for any reason the Examiner has any question regarding the content of this amendment or the allowability of the presently pending claims, he is respectfully requested to contact the Applicants' undersigned attorney at the telephone number indicated below.

A petition for a one-month extension of time is filed together with this Amendment. It is believed that no other fee is required with the filing of this Amendment. However, if any such other fee is required, authorization is given to debit the Deposit Account No. 09-0458 of the Assignee for the amount due, and to credit any overpayment to the same account.

Dated: April 21, 2005

Respectfully submitted,
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